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# Message Text

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45
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 NIC-01 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /095 W
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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5046

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CI, PINS, PINT
SUBJ: DIALOGUE TO START

REF: SANTIAGO 3357

1. SUMMARY. CONVERSTIONS ANNOUNCED TO START THIS MORNING BETWEEN ALLENDE AND AYLWIN. AN APPARENT PARTICIPANT IN THE EVENTS WHICH ENDED IN THE FATAL SHOOTING OF ALLENDE'S NAVAL AIDE-DE-CAMP SURRENDERED AND HAS REPORTEDLY IMPLICATED THE EXTREME LEFT. THE TRUCKERS' STRIKE HAS LED TO SOME VIOLENCE,AND TROOPS ARE ON DUTY AT GAS STATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. PDC PRES SENATOR PATRICIO AYLWIN SCHEDULED TO MEET PRES SALVADOR ALLENDE AT MONEDA PALACE AT 11:30 THIS MORNING TO COM-MENCE FACE-TO-FACE POLITICAL DIALOGUE. PCCH ISSUED COMMUNIST ENDORSEMENT TO ALLENDE'S INVITATION, WHILE PS WEEKEND PLENUM ENDED ONE DAY EARLIER THAN PLANNED AND POSTPONED DEFINATION OF SOCIALIST POSITION, AMID UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT ELEMENTS OF ALLENDE'S PARTY ARE THINKING ABOUT WITHDRAWING FROM GOVERNING UP COALITION. NEWLY FORMED OPPOSITION PSD DECLARED THAT SOCIAL DEMOCRATS FIND PROPOSED CONVERSATIONS "ABSURD," WHILE PN ISSUED STATEMENT REITERATING NATIONALIST VIEW THAT UP INCAPABLE OF GOVERNING BUT DID NOT ADDRESS DIRECTLY QUESTION OF DIALOGUE. AYLWIN REPEATED THAT DIALGOUE IS NOT EQUIVALENT OF
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ABANDONING PDC'S BASIC DEMANDS AND WROTE TO CARDINAL SILVA THAT ACCEPTANCE OF ALLENDE'S INVITATION RESPONDS TO CONFERENCE OF BISHOPS' CALL. CARDINAL REPLIED THAT BASIC REQUIREMENT NOW IS FOR PARTICIPANTS IN DEBATE TO RETREAT FROM VIEW THAT THEIR

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OWN SIDE IS SOLE OWNER OF TRUTH REGARDING HOW TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL JUSTICE.

3. CASE OF ALLENDE'S LATE NAVAL AIDE TOOK UNEXPECTED TURN WHEN ONE JOSE LUIS RIQUELME BASCUNAN, REPORTEDLY AN EXPLOSIVES EXPERT EMPLOYED BY GOVT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (CORFO), TURNED HIMSELF IN TO CARABINEROS AND VOLUNTEERED INFORMATION CONCERNING FATEFUL EVENTS OF EARLY HOURS OF JULY 27 IN WHICH HE APPARENTLY PARTICIPATED. VERSION OF RIQUELME'S REVELATIONS PUBLISHED IN SATURDAY AFTERNOON ISSUE OF LA SEGUNDA (OF CONSERVATIVE INDEPENDENT MERCURIO CHAIN BUT FURTHER TO RIGHT POLICITALLY) IMPLICATED MEMBERS OF EXTREME LEFT MIR, A SOCIALIST, AND THREE CUBANS IN ADDITION TO FINGERING A MEMBER OF PRESIDENT'S BODYGUARD GAP AS THE KILLER--ALL PUBLICITY UNIDENTIFIED -- IN PLOT TO KIDNAP CAPT ARAYA, AIMED AT MAKING MORE DIFFICULT POLITICAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN GOVT AND OPPOSITION AND WHICH ENDED WITH SHOOTING OF ARAYA. THIS VERSION WAS DENIED BY INTERIOR MINISTRY, AS WERE SUBSEQUENT STORIES THAT INVESTIGATIONS DIRECTOR ALFREDO JOIGNANT SAW THE CUBANS OFF ON A CUBANA DE AVIACION FLIGHT AND THAT PLANE WAS SEARCHED -- CUBAN EMBASSY ISSUED DENIAL THAT ITS NATIONALS INVOLVED. MIR DENIED THAT ANY OF ITS MEMBERS TOOK PART IN EVENTS. PDC DEPUTY CLAUDIO ORREGO VICUNA, HOWEVER, BOTH IN FORMAL STATEMENT PUBLISHED WITH AUTHORIZATION OF PDC PRES AYLWIN AND IN APPEARANCE ON TV/13 LATE SUNDAY NIGHT TALK SHOW "A ESTA HORA SE IMPROVISA," SAID THAT RIQUELME'S ACCOUNT AS PUBLISHED IN LA SEGUNDA WAS SUBSTANTIALLY ACCURATE AND IT REMAINED FOR COURTS TO DETERMINE WHETHER ACCOUNT WAS TRUTHFUL. SUPREME COURT APPOINTED APPEALS COURT JUDGE ABRAHAM MEERSOHN AS INVESTIGATING JUDGE (MINISTRO SUMARIANTE) IN CASE, WHO IN TURN AFTER INTERROGATING RIQUELME CONFIRMED ORDER OF MILITARY PROSECUTOR THAT HE BE HELD INCOMMUNICADO ON A HOMICIDE CHARGE. AS POLITICAL PARTIES ON ALL SIDES ISSUED DECLARATIONS CONDEMNING SHOOTING OF ARAYA AND IMPLYING OPPONENTS GUILTY, OPPOSITION ATTACKED ACCUSATION BY PS PRES SENATOR CARLOS ALTAMIRANO AGAINST MERCURIO'S RENE SILVA AND ARTURO FONTAINE, PN PRES SENATOR SERGIO JARPA AND PDC SENATOR (AND FORMER PRES OF CHILE) EDUARDO FREI AS "INTELLECTUAL AUTHORS" OF THE CRIME. PRO-GOVT PRESS AT FIRST DISMISSED RIQUELME STORY BUT

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TODAY MOSTLY CONFINED ITSELF TO TRYING TO DOWNPLAY ARAYA CASE AS A WHOLE.

4. TRUCKERS' STRIKE CONTINUES, WITH TROOPS ASSIGNED TO GUARD DUTY AT GASOLINE STATIONS TO ENFORCE RATIONING. NEAR SANTIAGO SUBURB OF SAN BERNARDO, UNDER SEC OF TRANSPORTATION JAIME FAIVOVICH (PS) REQUISITIONED SOME 300 TRUCKS PARKED AT A STRIKE CONCENTRATION POINT, BUT ACTION APPARENTLY ONLY SYMBOLIC AS TRUCKS REPORTEDLY MISSING VITAL PARTS REMOVED BY OWNERS. TRUCKERS GUILD ISSUED OFFICIAL PROTEST AGAINST BEATINGS REPORTEDLY INFLICTED BY INVESTIGATIONS DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ON LEADERS PICKED UP FOR QUESTIONING AS SUBSEQUENTLY RELEASED. VIOLENCE AGAINST NON-

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STRIKER TRUCKS WAS REPORTED FROM A NUMBER OF PLACES AROUND THE COUNTRY. SO FAR ONLY OTHER GUILD TO JOIN TRUCKERS' STRIKE IS VALPARAISO BUS OWNERS' ORGANIZATION.

5. OTHER INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE WERE ALSO REPORTED OVER WEEKEND. TARGETS OF BOMBINGS AND SIMILAR ATTACKS INCLUDED RAILROAD TRACKS (TRAINS SOUTH DELAYED AS MUCH AS 8 HOURS), PCCH OFFICES AT VINA DEL MAR SUBURB OF QUILPUE, PS-OWNED RADIO STATION IN LIMACHE, GAS STATION AT SAN JOSE DE MAIPO, CHILLAN ELECTRIC POWER TRANSFORMER STATION, AND HOME IN CONCEPCION OF BROTHER OF LT COL SOUPER (LEADER IN JUNE 29 MILITARY MUTINY).

6. PS ISSUED STATEMENT CHARGING MERCURIO NEWSPAPER CHAIN WITH TREASON AND THREATENING EVENTUAL TRIALS BY PEOPLE'S COURTS FOR ITS EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS. MERCURIO FRONT-PAGED ITS EDITORIAL REJOINER TO THE EFFECT THAT IT WILL NOT BE INTIMIDATED, ON CONTRARY WILL CONTINUE TO EXPOSE MACHINATIONS OF VIOLENCE-PRONE SOCIALISTS. THIS MORNING LA SEGUNDA COLUMNIST AND DIRECTOR OF OPPOSITION RADIO AGRICULTURA, ALVARO PUGA, ONCE AGAIN REPORTED ARRESTED ON CHARGE OF VIOLATING INTERNAL SECURITY LAW.

7. COMMENT. THERE IS WIDESPREAD APPRECIATION OF IMPORTANCE OF POLITICAL CONVERSATIONS WHICH START TODAY BETWEEN ALLENDE AND AYLWIN, WHICH TO BE MEANINGFUL MUST LEAD TO BASIC CHANGES OF DIRECTION IN UP POLICIES. ADMIRAL SERGIO HUIDOBRO, CHILEAN MARINE CORPS COMMANDANT WHO JUST RETURNED FROM VISIT TO US, TOLD AMBASSADOR A FEW MINUTES AGO THAT THREE ARMED FORCES CINCS ARE MEETING WITH ALLENDE THIS MORNING PRIOR TO ALLENDE-AYLWIN INTERVIEW AND THAT MILITARY PARTICIPATION IN CABINET BEING CON-
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SIDERED. HUIDOBRO REMARKED, AS HAVE MANY OBSERVERS, THAT MERE APPOINTMENT OF A FEW MILITARY TO CABINET PORTFOLIOS WOULD BE INADE-QUATE RESPONSE TO CURRENT CRISIS, AND THAT SHOULD TODAY'S CONVERSA-TIONS NOT PROSPER CONFRONTATION LOOMS AS REAL POSSIBILITY.
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